

REMARKS

The Patent Office in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment has characterized the preliminary amendment filed September 6, 2006 as being a non-compliant amendment. The preliminary amendment attempted to cancel a previously non-elected series of claims. The Office's application of 37 CFR section 1.142(b) is (apparently) that previously "withdrawn" claims cannot be canceled until the restriction requirement is withdrawn or overruled. In accordance with the requirement in the Notice, this response shows claims 13-20 as being not canceled. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

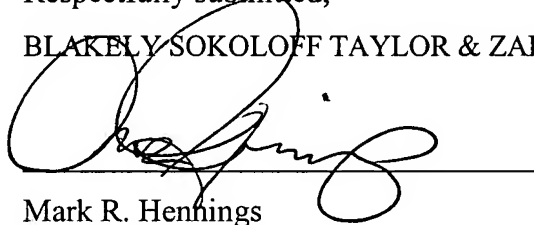
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at (206) 292-8600 if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark R. Hennings', is written over a horizontal line.

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